

2012-2013 Museum & School Collaborative Grant Opportunity to Integrate Indian Education for All

The Office of Public Instruction will provide support for collaborative efforts between a local museum and school district to address a two-fold purpose: exploring ways to become co-educators in topics of Montana American Indian culture and history in a museum setting and the public school classroom, and improving the presentation of American Indian history, artifacts and related documents in museum collections. The OPI will award up to six grants for amounts of \$7,000 - 10,000, with priority given to communities which have not participated in a prior IEFA museum – school grant. The first step is to define the potential collaboration, second step - complete the Letter of Intent form by April 15, and the third step is to develop and submit a complete grant proposal by June 22. Upon approval, grant funding begins July 1, 2012 - June 15, 2013.

This opportunity allows the museum team to actively engage with the school community (admin, teachers, students, and family) to build a long lasting investment towards understanding the historical influence of the past through contemporary times with and from the local community. Student learning may be addressed through the grant team consideration of such areas as: place-based education for field trips; cross cultural activities with Native students and cultural leaders; research from primary source documents; visiting local landmarks, a close reservation and/or a local museum; engaging with local and/or state professionals regarding historical and/or archeological topics; producing a publication highlighting an aspect of the grant; and other activities, which will bring backyard history alive.

It also provides for museums to update or extend information in museum exhibits to include tribal perspectives and input, as well as provide community interest and support with an invitation to celebrate through museum/school activities.

Please consider this engaging grant opportunity to bring your local community together through a collaborative process towards renewing historical interest with pride, building bridges of friendship between peoples of Montana and generating new knowledge in students who understand the importance of Indian Education for All.

By June 22, 2012 the grant team will submit a full proposal, which will encompass the following areas: rationale based on needs assessment, defined goals, specified activities, timeline, and a budget.

Resources for the Letter of Intent:

Essential Understandings Regarding Montana Indians

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/indianed/resources/essentialunderstandings.pdf>

On line OPI Teacher Survey http://www.opi.mt.gov/programs/indianed/IEFA.html#gpm1_7

OPI IEFA Professional Development summer opportunities found under Hot Topics at

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/IndianEd/Index.html>

OPI Letter of Intent Form

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Letter of Intent from _____ Museum.

Signature _____ Title _____

Letter of Intent from _____ School District.

Signature _____ Title _____

Expectations for participation – please address the following in a narrative:

- Museum staff meets with school administration and staff to gain an interest and support of the grant, brainstorm ideas for possible grant efforts
- School identifies IEFA project goal(s) based on *EUs*, online OPI teacher survey, IEFA curriculum mapping, SS content standards or others
- Identify potential teachers, grade level, number of students who will participate in the grant (this can be a combination of grade levels or one grade)
- Brief description of project

Submit Letters of Intent by April 15 to Justine Jam, OPI, PO Box 202501, Helena MT 59620 or FAX 444-3924.

For the Letter of Intent in Word format, please contact Joan Franke jfranke@mt.gov. For questions contact Justine Jam 444-7490 or jjam@mt.gov



Montana
Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, State Superintendent